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January 3, 2012

TERRI MORGAN, TREASURER
OHIO REPUBLICAN PARTY STATE CENTRAL
& EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
211 S. FIFTH STREET
COLUMBUS, OH 43215

Response Due Date 02/07/2012

IDENTIFICATION NUMBER: C00162339

REFERENCE: AMENDED JULY MONTHLY REPORT (06/01/2011 - 06/30/2011),

RECEIVED 09/20/2011

Dear Treasurer:

This letter is prompted by the Commission's preliminary review of the report(s) referenced above. This notice requests information essential to full public disclosure of your federal election campaign finances. Failure to adequately respond by the response date noted above could result in an audit or enforcement action. Additional information is needed for the following 5 item(s):

- 1. A review of the reports filed by your committee indicates that your committee received one or more transfers from "Ohio State Medical Association PAC" which has not been disclosed on their report(s) of receipts and disbursements. Please clarify if the contribution(s) was received from the disclosed donor's federal account and amend your report(s) if necessary. (11 CFR §104.3(b))
- **2.** Itemized disbursements must include a brief statement or description of why the disbursements were made. Please amend Schedule(s) H4 of your report to clarify the following description(s): "Micro targeting not candidate specific." For further guidance regarding acceptable purposes of disbursements, please refer to 11 CFR §104.3(b)(3).
- **3.** Your Amended May Monthly (4/1/11 4/30/11), received 9/20/11, Amended June Monthly (5/1/11 5/31/11), received 9/20/11, and Amended July Monthly (6/1/11 6/30/11), received 9/20/11, Reports combined disclose limited payments for administrative expenses. Administrative expenses are payments made for the purpose of operating a political committee including, but not limited to, **rent**, utilities, salaries, telephone service, office equipment and supplies. Each state, district or local party committee utilizing separate federal and non federal accounts is required to allocate any administrative

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expenses (excluding salary) between the accounts according to a fixed percentage selected on Schedule H1. A Schedule H1 must be filed with the first FEC FORM 3X filed at the beginning of each calendar year. Payments for salary and wages for employees who spend more than 25% of their compensated time on Federal election activities or on activities in connection with a Federal election must be made from a federal account and disclosed on a Schedule B supporting Line 30(b) of the Detailed Summary Page. (11 CFR §106.7)

Any goods or services provided to your committee by a person, except volunteer activity (i.e., a person's time), would be considered an in kind contribution from that person, and would be subject to the disclosure requirements of 2 U.S.C. §434(b)(3) and 11 CFR §104.13, and the limitations and prohibitions of 2 U.S.C. §§441a and 441b. Payments to a consulting, law or accounting firm will be considered acceptable for salary.

Clarification regarding administrative expenses should be provided during each two year election cycle beginning with the first report filed in the non election year. Please provide the necessary information regarding administrative expenses incurred by your committee and/or amend your report to disclose such expenses according to the referenced provisions of the Act and Commission Regulations.

- **4.** Schedule H4 of your report discloses a reimbursement(s) to an individual(s) for apparent travel and subsistence advances in which the total amount reimbursed exceeds \$500. When the reimbursement amount to staff for travel and subsistence advances exceeds \$500, the payments by committee staff that make up the reimbursement have to be itemized as memo entries <u>regardless of the amount</u>. Each memo entry must include the complete name and address of the original vendor, as well as the date, amount and an adequate purpose. Please amend your report to include the missing information and clearly identify on the Schedule H4, which reimbursement each memo entry relates to. (11 CFR §§104.10 and 104.17, and Advisory Opinion 1996-20, footnote 3)
- **5.** Schedule H4 of your report discloses disbursements for the Administrative category which use a ratio that is inconsistent with the ratio disclosed on Schedule H1. The fixed ratio for the allocation of administrative, generic voter drive and exempt activity expenses by State, district and local party committees should be the same for the full two-year election cycle, unless a Special election is scheduled during an odd numbered year. Please amend your report to clarify this apparent discrepancy.

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Please note that if your non-federal account has overpaid your federal account because of this miscalculation, it will be necessary to immediately transfer these funds back to the non-federal account. While the Commission may take further legal action concerning any impermissible overpayments by the non-federal account, your prompt action will be taken into consideration. (11 CFR §§106.7(d))

Please note, you will not receive an additional notice from the Commission on this matter. Adequate responses must be received by the Commission on or before the due date noted above to be taken into consideration in determining whether audit action will be initiated. Failure to comply with the provisions of the Act may also result in an enforcement action against the committee. Any response submitted by your committee will be placed on the public record and will be considered by the Commission prior to taking enforcement action. Requests for extensions of time in which to respond will not be considered.

Electronic filers must file amendments (to include statements, designations and reports) in an electronic format and must submit an amended report in its entirety, rather than just those portions of the report that are being amended. If you should have any questions regarding this matter or wish to verify the adequacy of your response, please contact me on our toll-free number (800) 424-9530 (at the prompt press 5 to reach the Reports Analysis Division) or my local number (202) 694-1157.

Sincerely,

Laura Sinram

Senior Campaign Finance Analyst

Jaura E. Sinraño

Reports Analysis Division